MCC NEWS

VOLUME 111
NUMBER 46
AUGUST 29 1971
DONATION 25¢

M.C.C. NEWS

EDITOR
Connie Vaughn
ASST. EDITORS
Marty Seneca
Joe Coltrane
SPECIAL REPORTER
Al Correa
ART & GRAPHICS
Erik Slater
Connie Vaughn
CIRCULATION
Rusty Carlson
STAFF
Pat Rardin
Harry Waggaman
Jimmy Borges
Ken Loihana
Dale Brown
Roy Randle

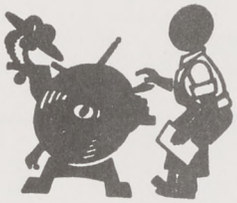
HEAD OF PUBLICATIONS
Don Hughes

All publications are printed in house.

A Metropolitan Community Church Publication
Rev. Troy D. Perry, Pastor
2201 S. Union Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90007
Phone 213-748-0123

Personal Services
Phone 213-748-0123

C.I.C.
Phone 213-748-1904



THE COVER

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

And there appeared to them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2: 1-4

SUNDAY, AUGUST 29

Earthquake!!

READ EPHESIANS 6:21

Bible Thought: ***"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God . . . All things were made through him; and without him was not anything made . . ."*** **(John 1:1,3).**

FEBRUARY 9, 1971, will live in the memory of people of the San Fernando Valley for two reasons. The earth shook with tremendous force on that day causing death and destruction. Sixty-three people lost their lives. Hundreds lost all their possessions. Thousands suffered damage. Many are still fearful as the aftershocks continue.

God worked amazingly after the earthquake. The church at San Fernando is surrounded on all sides by the areas hardest hit by the quake. Almost before the full story of its severity was heard, God worked on the hearts of people across the nation. Money, dishes, food, clothing, and blankets poured it—it seemed there was no end. Our church building was kept open all hours to serve the people who came in by the thousands to receive aid. Ninety-eight per cent of our membership suffered loss in the quake, yet before they picked up their own debris, they came to the building to help others.

A new closeness is felt between our members. We realize more than ever that we must tell others of God's love through Jesus. We may die in an earthquake!

Hymn: "God Moves in a Mysterious Way."

Dear Father, we thank you for the earthquake, because it has given us a new sense of urgency to preach Jesus. It is in his name we pray. Amen.

—LARRY POPE

WEDNESDAY IS THE DEADLINE!!

Okay, all you Reporters, Secretaries of Clubs and Parishes, Columnists, Clergy and anyone else who submits articles for the MCC News. We love you for the copy and couldn't do it without you, BUT, in order to have some kind of order and schedule, we have established a Wednesday evening deadline. Definitely, positively, no exceptions allowed if you want your article in that weeks' issue. Otherwise it will be held over for the next week.

Have Mercy On Us, Please! We just can't possibly type your articles and get them ready for paste up, make the plates and print hundreds of copies by Sunday morning if everyone hands in their copy on Friday evening.

If you could type your own articles at least once. Check it over for clarity and spellings, double spaced so that we can easily and quickly read it and type it off real fast, then we will have a little extra time to ourselves and loved ones. You CAN of course, submit them as early as you are ready. Anytime BEFORE Wednesday, would be real nice. This is wonderful work but really it can get exasperating at times with so much to do and no one around to help.

THANK YOU REV. PERRY

Among the 56 people in attendance at Sunday's service were members of our families, a visiting local minister, over a dozen new local people who came as a result of our publicity campaign and our beloved brothers and sisters from Los Angeles.

LA's own Willie Smith and Lee Spangenberg along with Russel Quest and Rev. Jon Bullock helped make this service an unforgettable inspirational experience. Mom Perry, Steve Jordan, Ted Sweet and everyone who made the long trip to Fresno helped us to become a more integral part of the Los Angeles congregation.

Rev. Perry's sermon was more than appropriate and timely. He outlined Godly principles which will provide this congregation a theme and purpose for years to come. Everyone was moved and heartened by his message.

The barbecue at the ranch proved to be a happy conclusion to this unforgettable day of fellowship for the Fresno Mission. The Mother Church is sure good to her children.

Thanks again
Fresno Mission

Last week I put a notice in the Newsletter asking those who could spend some time working to do housekeeping, painting, etc. to contact me. Would you believe out of all our members, that only four came forward. We really need some additional help this next week. Even if you can spend only an hour or so with us, it would help. Let's give some of our time to the Lord next week and be doubly proud of our Church building.

Russell Quest
Board Member

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE & CLEAN-UP

About 75 active members showed up Sunday evening Aug. 22 for a short devotional and a few hymns after which everyone rolled up their sleeves and went to work with that particular brand of fun and enthusiasm our busy members seem to be blessed with.

Rev. Perry took charge of the work party personally,dividing them into special groups, each taking a section inside and outside the church. It was so heartwarming to see how many women were able to attend! For awhile our women seemed almost like visitors, the Church had a true desire to welcome them completely as active members, but it hasn't been until the last two months that they, as a body, decided to plunge in. We never like to single out one person above others to commendate, but we must credit Rev. Evelyn Kinser for providing the leadership required to bridge this gap and bring our sisters closer to us.

Another person I must mention is Max Davis. Don't even know if he's a member, but he was here all day Saturday and Sunday afternoons working outside in the hot sun. Sunday evening some of the work crew helped him. I met Max at a Northeast Parish meeting June and he made one of the most beautiful statements I've ever heard about our Church; describing his 1st Sunday service. Max said everything was so beautiful and the warmth and love of the members so encompassing, that if he had died that day, he'd have left the earth in complete happiness, at peace with the world over having lived to see the day when such love and unity could occur in our community.

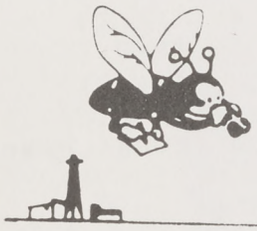
Was the work finished? No! We need you badly, and we need you TO-

NIGHT! And not only do we need you, we also have to ask you to bring your own cleaning equipment. We need buckets, brooms, cleaning cloths, cleaning solutions and elbow grease!

Help us make our Church home a spotless representative of our personal habits so we can all shine for our visitor and delegates to General Conference.

All day Saturday those women were at it again. Cleaning, painting, fixing, MCC is truly appreciative of the hours spent and the many tasks performed by Rev. Evelyn Kinser, Sue Cinowalt from the Usher Committee, Nancy from Oklahoma, Sally Cast, Kay Stevens and their male assistants Bil White with the vacuum, and Mel Davis and Skip Beach with the shovels. Thank you and Bless you all.

Al Correa
Honorary W.A.C. &
"Spider" Luton
Bldg Administrator



A VIEW FROM THE PEW

"LITTLE DAVID WAS SMALL, BUT OH MY..."

The 11 AM Services are so much fun that at times I wonder if there might not be a trace of irreverence to the pleasure they give me. This morning Deacon Tom Purcell opened services with what might almost be described as a short sermon. Speaking of the talents God has given us all, he summed up asking, "How are you using your talents in this exciting world we live in...? Are you sitting on the edges of life waiting, or are you using the gifts God has given you to make YOU a Groovy Guy?"

A male and a female usher lit the Altar candles, after which the Chancel Choir took their places;this morning there were 17 present. Jerry Bumgarner directed; he sang a solo at one point, backed up by the entire choir.

Asst. Pastor John Hose welcomed us.Commenting on last night's Groovy Guy Contest Rev. Hose observed "...it's significant that we can enjoy ourselves at a community function such as this, yet be mindful the following morning of our need to occupy ourselves with Jesus Christ. I enjoin you now to raise your hearts and voices as we praise the Lord."

Our special guest this morning was Rev. Robert Cunningham, Pastor of MCC-Phoenix. Rev. Cunningham led us in Responsive Reading, followed by Rev. Richard Ploen who led us in Silent and Pastoral Prayer.Some excerpts from Rev. Ploen's prayer: "Our hearts are lifted in adoration... May we experience Your marvelous cleansing and a renewed life. We crave more of that genuine religion based on kindly utterances and concern for one another. You alone are acquainted with our every need... Bring joy to those who are depressed; mercy to the sinner; keep us from that which might tempt us. May we acquit ourselves as good soldiers of Jesus Christ."

Our Pastor then addressed us, introducing Jimmy Hughes, winner of last night's Groovy Guy Contest and his lover Bob Dunn who's active on the Usher Committee. Other visitors were Jay from San Francisco; Eric Snyders visiting his cousin Hans from Holland; and all sorts of nice folks from M.C.C. San Diego. The ones I met were Deacon Gus Gonzalez & Tom Kuhl, Chris & Dennis McKeun, Merv & his Lover, and Henry (whom I've met several times, but still don't know his last name.) Deacon Gus is Treasurer of MCC San Diego and he and Tom are among the friendliest couples I've met.

As a prelude to his sermon, Rev. Perry read from 1st Samuel, 51st Chapter, 45th Verse. I struggled at home later trying to decode my New English Bible so I could reread this passage, but couldn't find the key. Perhaps someday I'll learn what those numbers down the sides of each page in the Bible represent, but at the moment I'm convinced it's an ecclesiastical secret revealed only to the Ordained.

Telling us some current news interspersed with his Sermon, Rev. Perry mentioned that yesterday (Aug. 21st) he had conducted a funeral memorial service followed by five weddings, making him feel like "Marrying' Sam". He told us of a recent visit he made to San Bernardino. He and Willie Smith addressed groups of young people, some of whom were hostile. Abruptly asked by one of the young people, "What do you do in bed?" Our Pastor countered quickly with,

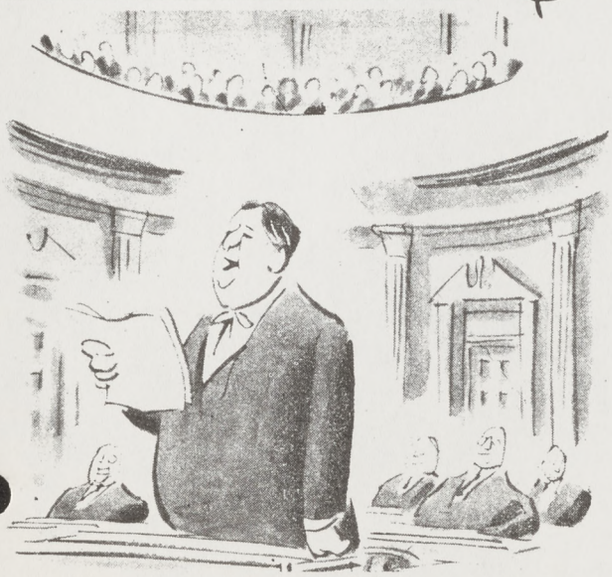
"What do you do in bed?" Discussion led to understanding and after they got through, the kids were friendly. "We're Gay" said Rev. Perry, "but we came to them in the name of the Lord and we got through to them!"

Speaking on the Old Testament, Rev. Perry said that little David was one of his favorite Biblical figures. He then proceeded to weave the familiar story of David and Goliath, but in his own original style with that humor and warmth that makes him a pleasure to listen to. "David had faith that his God could do anything!" Using Rev. Cunningham as an example of similar faith and determination he spoke of MCC Phoenix and of problems they had about a year ago. "Seven months ago, we invited Bob Cunningham to serve in Phoenix as Interim Pastor. In seven months he not only solved the problems of that Church, but also led them to purchase their new Church home. And Bob Cunningham isn't stopping here" added Rev. Perry. "His hopes are that in the future--they can provide a Retirement Center for our people and a Hospital for our people."

Rev. Perry's closing prayer asked, "Help us all to be Davids.Let us know when the enemy is around us... Bless every member of this Church."

Rev. Cunningham was called on to make the Benediction after Communion. His Prayer asked: "Grant that we may continue Your work, never for our own Glory, but for Thine."

Al Correa



"My amendment will authorize any child to use the school telephone to dial-a-prayer."

GOD AND M.C.C. ENTERS MY LIFE

I am a fellow Christian. I have felt that Homosexuality was a sin, although I was not ashamed of being a lesbian. I guess I have felt this way because of my lack of knowledge in the Bible.

One day about a year ago I sat at home with my mother; we watched the Virginia Graham show. A man was being interviewed--his name, Troy Perry. He was founder and Pastor of a church called Metropolitan Community Church. I sat and listened to this man as he talked about his church. It was a church for Gays. As I sat and listened, I started having a warm and compassionate feeling toward this man, despite the degrading comments by my mother about this church. I was hiding my true feelings from my mother as she had known about some of the relations with some girls a few years back and had just passed it on as a stage in my life. To me it wasn't just a stage in my life--It was ME--A HOMOSEXUAL! About 15 to 20 minutes went by, and the interview was over. Troy Perry was gone and my heart felt empty. Here was a man who stood up for himself and was saying to me, God loves you and has provided a place for you to worship! This is when I guess M.C.C. first entered my life.

It never entered my mind to do anything about M.C.C. even though I had thought often about it.

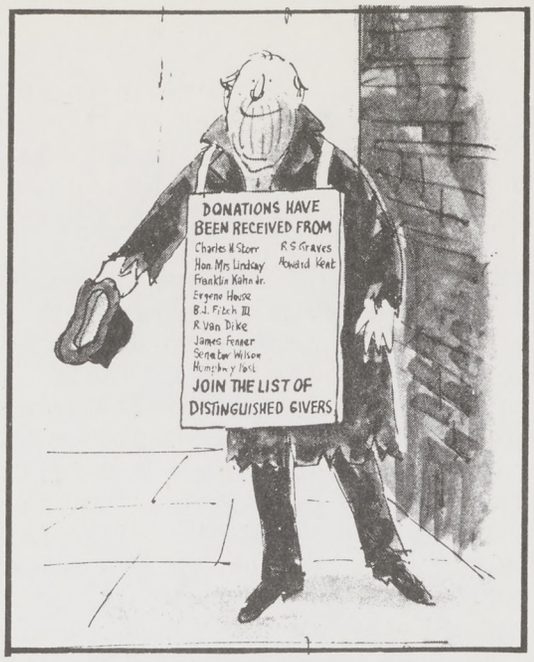
About six months later God really had entered my life. He brought Ann and I together. We had been close friends for years, and as we can see now, He had a special purpose in mind for us. We were married in the Mother church five months ago. This was really a big step for both of us, as I had never before felt I could exchange marriage vows before God, and I prayed it was the right thing to do as Ann had done. I might add, before we were married we wanted to go to a worship service to experience the service for one thing and to see if it was a farce for another thing. Well needless to say--it wasn't a farce and it had really opened our hearts and minds to the fact, "God really loves us and we aren't outcasts." Not only that, but the fellowship was really remarkable. We both walked out of the service relieved. After our experience, Ann and I were both anxious to see a Mission start in Fresno. Well, five months later, friends "Here we are!" Thanks to the grace of God. I am so proud to be from Fresno.

MCC and God has given me the courage that Troy Perry had to stand up in front of straights and say, "I'm a Homosexual and I'm proud of it." Despite my thoughts that God had abandoned me, I know now he had never left me because He has given me Ann and MCC. For that I am thankful.

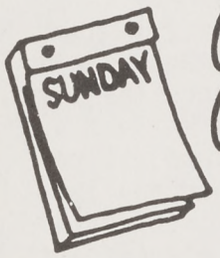
As a member of the Fresno Mission I'd like to express to you all a warm and sincere welcome to our church. See you soon and May God Bless.

Yours in Christ,
Marge Husar

(Note: Maybe a copy to Miss Graham?)



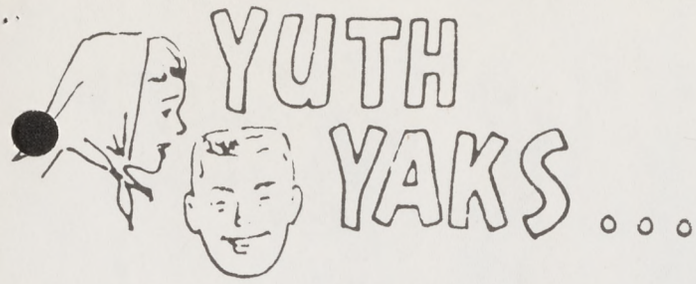
Our Church Calendar



MONDAY, AUGUST 30TH	7:30 PM	SILENT CHOIR Choir Room
	7:30 PM	SUPERSTAR REHEARSAL Sanctuary
TUESDAY, AUGUST 31ST	7:30 PM	NORTHEAST PARISH MEETING Ben Taylor's, 533 Ivy St., Glendale
	7:30 PM	SUPERSTAR REHEARSAL Sanctuary
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1ST	7:30 PM	KOOL-AIDS RAP SESSION
	8:00 PM	WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING Main Sanctuary
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2ND	6:00 PM	LITURGICAL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	7:00 PM	CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL
	7:30 PM	C.I.C. MEETING Seminary Room
	7:30 PM	MCC MOTORCYCLE CLUB Sommers Room
	8:30 PM	ALCOHOLICS TOGETHER MEETING Church Social Hall
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3RD	7:30 PM	KOOL-AIDS MEETING

FRIDAY, 3RD
SATURDAY, 4TH
SUNDAY, 5TH

GENERAL CONFERENCE (SEE SEPARATE LISTING)
See Back Cover



BACK TO SCHOOL DANCE WITH US

M.C.C. YOUTH GROUP is planning another Dance. The set date is September 11th. The place is the famous Horseshoe Theatre here at MCC-LA. The donation is $1.50 and listen to what we've planned: a floor show, a dance contest (charge 50¢ to enter) with a prize of twenty-five dollars going to the winning couple, and some of the wildest, groovies music that you've ever lent ear to.

We want our Back To School Dance to be a big success, because it is our last activity for summer '71 and all our youth-group members along with myself would like it to be one that we will never forget. Now for all you people who try to hide behind the altar and perhaps the belief that you are too old to be attending Youth Group Dances, let me say this, you're only as old as you think you are. The only 2 members of the clergy here at MCC-LA that I have seen at our Youth Group Dances are Rev. Perry and Rev. Van Hecke. Don't you think that it's important that the clergy show to the Youth Group that they do not let their religious calling inhibit their fun loving ways? A Youth Group Dance only means that the dance is sponsored by the Youth Group. WE want all the MCC members to participate in the dances. So come out and join us in the fun and festivities. Like the teachers are always saying to students when you don't hand in homework "Any excuse is better than none".

Don't be upset members, if all the Youth Group bugs you about buying a ticket. Because we all want this to be our last big activity of this summer.

Our rap-session was spent this week making posters to advertise our Dance. You may have noticed some of them in the Church here and there this morning. But we had great attendance.

Another exciting activity being planned by the Youth Group is a Youth Day at Church. (Sunday). Be looking for more details in the future.

Does the MCC Youth Group sound like fun? Sound like the place for you? Want to get involved with the now set? Then come out and join us!! Our only requirement is that you be from age 13-20. We like to boast that we are not only our brother's keeper, but also our brother's brother and our sister's sister. (Smile)

Well until next week, all you people, keep the faith, babe!!

Ray Hicks
MCC Youth Group
Moderator

POLYNESIAN DANCES

HELE MAI HULA O KANES AND WAHINES
(Come join us in dancing -Males and Females)

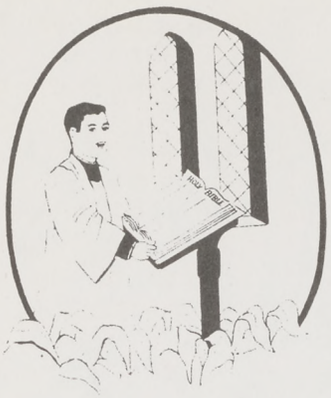
Starting Friday, September 10th at 7PM to 9:30 PM (and every Friday after) in the Social Hall at MCC, Polynesian Dancing Classes will commence. Iwalani Harper, a member of MCC, will be the instructor.

In this particular course Polynesian dances, Hawaiian and Tahitian, will be taught. However for the first phase , we will begin with the Hawaiian Hula, Modern and Ancient. Ancient Hawaiian Hula is now becoming a lost art. Also in the course, students will learn to dance with implements used in Hawaiian Hula...such as the Uli Uli, Bamboo, Ili Ili, and Ipu.

For all those who would like to acquire a talent, this is a good chance for you. Of course, there will be a charge for these classes. For more information, please call 213-627-5193(ask for Ken) or 213-663-5809 after 7PM (ask for Iwalani).

A percentage of what Iwalani Harper gets from these classes will go to MCC. Therefore come and join us on September 10th.

Aloha,
Poomaikalani



STATESMAN OR POLITICIAN?

I recently finished reading a book entitled, "The Man Who Stole a University" in which the difference between a statesman and a politician was beautifully exemplified. A politician, the author said, continuously points out what is wrong with a situation; while a statesman, seeing something wrong, seeks out a workable solution to the problem, then does everything in his power to implement that solution.

The central character of the book took the position as Chancelor-business manager of his financially troubled home town university. When the reactionary board of directors, led by a retired General with a lust to dominate, opposed his up-dated policies to the point of firing the university's most eminent professor; he, with the very willing cooperation of the striking student body and faculty, literally stole the school by moving it to an abandoned Navy base 6 miles away.

Excellent fiction you say? Certainly, but the words still mean a great deal; if you doubt me, look at the man in our Pastor's office. To paraphrase the title, "The Man Who Stole a Church." The Rev. Troy Perry, a statesman, certainly, for when he sees something wrong, he not only points it out, he does something about it. He tries to find a workable solution, then does everything in his power to implement that solution. A book and a Church, both are worth the time it takes to become involved.

T'Beau

COME,
Let us WORSHIP

ELEVENTH MONTHLY MEETING
LOS ANGELES COUPLES CLUB

by Al Correa

The Los Angeles Couples Club will be holding their 11th monthly meeting on the 2nd Friday of September at the comfortable hillside home of Art and Wally. Sept. 10th at 7:30 PM. We want to serve hamburgers; the Club will provide the patties, our gracious hosts will provide the buns and refreshments, so all we need now are you beautiful married folks to come visit as Art and Wally's guests.

Since food will be provided we must ask you to RSVP no later than Sept. 7th so we can plan the munchibles accordingly. A $2.00 donation per couple will be necessary. If you have one of those Farberware smokeless grilles, please let me know if you can bring it over so we can speed up the cooking.

No formal membership has ever existed for the Los Angeles Couples Club but at this party we're going to ask you to give us your names, if you wish to be recorded as a regular member. A membership list will be provided for all members who might wish to become better acquainted with one another on a more personal basis. We will be informally discussing the next meeting, too, which will be the 1st anniversary of the LA Couples Club - the oldest Couples Club of any MCC group.

Here are the specifics:

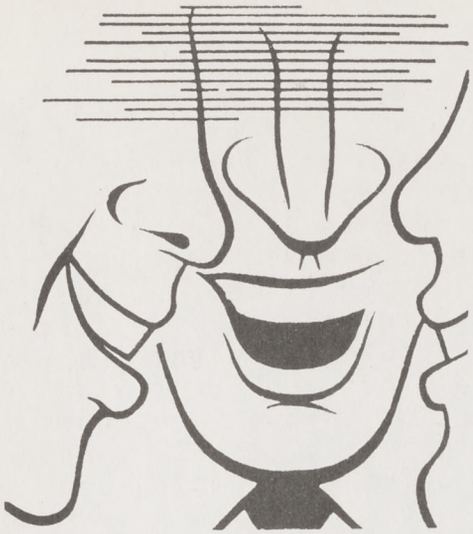
Address: 3634 Primavera Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90065

Host phone: 223-8081

If you can't reach the hosts call me on: 851-4395.

Meeting date: Sept. 10th - 7:30 PM

RSVP date: No later than Sept. 7th.



YOU CAN HELP

It is a fact. Homosexuals have a much higher rate of alcoholism than the rest of the population. Take comfort from the knowledge that there is help available for the alcoholic. The rate of recovery from active alcoholism, among those who accept help, is now higher than from any other chronic illness.

If the one you love is an alcoholic, the first thing you must accept is that alcoholism is an illness. So remind yourself over and over again that, the alcoholic is a sick human being.

Once you have accepted as fact the idea that alcoholism is a sickness from which the compulsive drinker can find release, you will have no reason to be ashamed of the alcoholic, no reason to condemn alcoholism.

You can help bring about recovery. Dismiss everything you think you know about alcoholism from your mind. Learn the facts and forget what you have guessed about alcoholism and what your friends have told you, that they have also guessed.

You can get first hand knowledge from recovered alcoholics by attending their open meetings. Don't hesitate because you feel you're a stranger. You can discuss your difficulties freely with the people you meet there.

Deep within, every suffering alcoholic wants to be rid of this terrible burden. If you know what to do when your alcoholic is ready to be helped, you can help your friend avoid most of the pitfalls that can slow the recovery from active alcoholism.

The way ahead is not always easy, but it is full of rich rewards in a full and satisfying life for you and the one you love. Be encouraged in knowing, that the homosexual is not only more susceptible to alcoholism, but chances are that homosexuals recover faster and easier.

YOU CAN HELP

Without your help there might never be a recovery. To find out where you can get all the facts call:

MCC Crisis Intervention Center:

213 - 748 - 1904

Alcoholics Together: 213-664-8008

ATTENTION!

YOU ASKED FOR IT. AND NOW
YOU'RE GOING TO GET IT !

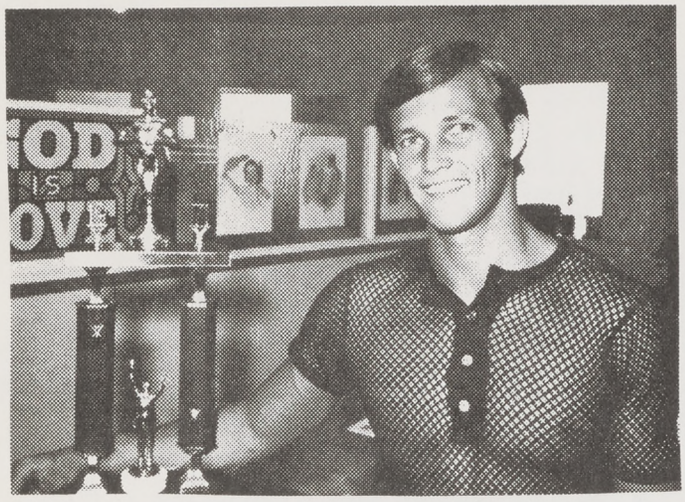
The Christian Education Committee announces the first meeting to form one or a number of Discussion Groups. Meetings will be held at the Church. Topics will be chosen by the group.

ORGANIZING MEETING: Sept. 17, 1971
Friday, 7:30 PM
22nd & Union Sts.

THE PERFECT MAN

There is a man who never drinks nor smokes, nor chews, nor swears, who never gambles, never flirts and shuns all sinful snares.

HE'S PARALYZED!



GROOVY GUY - 1971

by Al Correa

You'll be reading enough about the Groovy Guy Contest in the Advocate and other publications, so I won't dwell too much on specifics. Connie Vaughn and I talked about wheter or not we should cover it at all, finally deciding that: a) It is a major social event within our community b) It is sponsored by the Advocate, and our Church supports the Advocate. So if you've never attended a GG Contest this is what it's like.

Arriving at the Sheraton-Universal I first met Craig Hanson who has been to prior contests. "What's this like compared to other GG Contests you've attended?" I asked.

"The difference" said Craig "is that there are about 5 times as many people and the room is more than twice as large."

Meeting Advocate columnist Jim Kepner in the lobby I greeted him. As we spoke, the sight of 3 dancing Go-Go Boys clad only in G-strings caused Jim to say "Everytime I look into the Ballroom at those dancers and picture the enormity of what's occurring here tonight, I seem to go into a state of Future Shock!" These were surprising words indeed, coming as they did from a man whose advanced thinking had done a great deal toward liberating me - a man who couldn't be described as other than an important and conspicuous Gay Activist. No matter, Jim, I still admire you. The view of the Go-Go Boys was a bit Bacchanalian.

Picture this: 2 straight Oriental tourist couples in the parking lot hear the loud music and see the substantial crowd of people. They approach, imagining they've just discovered a swinging nightclub right in the hotel that they'd previously missed! Peeking through the doors their first sight is of the semi-nude Go-Go dancers doing their thing beautifully, but the whole scene clearly homoerotic. Being foreign guests (and not being too clear on what local tribal customs might dictate), they were really sort of cool about the whole bit, finally leaving when they discovered admission at the door was $5.00 each.

"This is where Lanna and I spent our Honeymoon", said Bo Siewert. Bo was smartly dressed in a blue tuxedo and Lanna dressed in a soft white gown. A sprinkling of women were present, but mighty few. Donnie, one of the women who worked with me and Larry Hull painting the Church entrance hall said "Why doesn't anybody have something like this for the women? Everything is just directed towards the boys!"

Dancing...Loud music, well played but its excessive volume straining the limits of my hearing. John Wesley and Carl Neumeister were rushing for the exit to the lobby alongside me, having reached their level of tolerance at exactly the same moment. We drank and smoked, finally returning to the Ballroom when some films were run of prior contests. Judges were introduced. Don't remember one single name, but was tremendously impressed by the prestigious backgrounds of the judges and their occupations - many of a sensitive nature - and the way they were proudly and matter-of-factly announced (as such things should be, but haven't been).

The contestants arrived, walking through the room, mounting a revolving platform and striking a pose. I felt a sharp twinge of compassion for them, the gift of beauty carries its own price and takes its own toll.

What ever motives the contestants

might have had in entering, one thing was clear: they were laying their personal appeal on the line, allowing others to measure publicly the extent of their desirability, or lack of it. The audience behaved beautifully; they'd been drinking and dancing and were in a state of high excitement. Contestants were tense and nervous, probably frightened, too. At such times it's difficult not to do something silly. On those few moments when certain contestants lost their poise or revealed their nervousness, the audience (with rare exceptions) was kind. Contestants with no powerful appeal received applause anyway; the audience sensitivity to the feelings of the contestants was one of the most beautiful things I witnessed that night.

You all know Jimmy Hughes won. The final decision having been reached, there was an amazing exodus from the floor, I mean it seemed as if everyone in that room rose as one body and headed for the door! In the parking lot, we met a brother from Costa Mesa who had left his headlights on. We tried to be good Christians and gave him a push, but the battery was as dead as a doornail. He called the Auto Club so we reluctantly left him in the damp early morning (it was 2 AM Sunday and I was aching to get to my bed.)

Did I enjoy it? Yes!

Women's Lib has had much to say about hetero beauty contests being dehumanizing. These arguments somehow lose their relevance when you are being judged by your own sex in an atmosphere of genuine appreciation coupled with a Christian understanding of the feelings and vulnerability of the contestants.

Our thanks should go to the Advocate for promoting a traditional event like this which displays male homosexuality in a light closest to the Grecian ideal; that is to say, pride and admiration of healthy, self-respecting, beautiful human beings.

JIMMY HUGHES: GROOVY GUY 1971

Many of you who know me are aware of the fact that I am new to Los Angeles and MCC. I was just released from prison where I've spent too many long years. I met my good friend there and learned that there was much more to life than just being the toughest. I've had a few rough breaks and what I've asked for , I've gotten. But hopefully, that only belongs to my past. I'll try to glean from my experiences the knowledge of how to help those still there where I once was.

My friend wrote me about the Groovy Guy Contest and convinced me that I should become a contestant. I don't think I ever realized just how many demands winning would place on me.

Yet, I'm proud to be able to represent the Gay Community as a whole and M.C.C., because you have indeed been my friend. I've found understanding, help, consideration and real friendship amongst the congregation. In my past, I must find the strength to build my future and your support has given me a wonderful present.

I shall do my best to make Mr. Groovy Guy 1971, a fellow that every gay and every MCC goer will be proud to know. Help me that I might help myself and those whom I know need help so badly.

God Bless You All,

Jimmy Hughes

Dear Members and Friends:

Listed below are some of the names that the Treasurer of our Church has of people who have generously contributed $100.00 or more to our Building Fund. Some names have been mistakenly omitted because during our first two years, our records did not show individual gifts, only total offerings. PLEASE HELP US! If your name does not appear here, phone the Church receptionist no later than tomorrow before 2 PM. Your help in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Troy D. Perry

Antilla, Edward
Anderson, Viola
Advocate Publications
Angus, Jerry
Allen, William L.
Anderson, Arthur S.
Anderson, C. F.
Black, Al
Burns, J.E.
Brooks, Roy C.
Beazley, Irv
Bessler, Ronald
Barr, Howard S.
Britt, Ken
Bryant, Barrie
Benson, Robert T.
Bullock, Jon
Boreman, Don
Berger, Wayne
Carlson, Chad
Craven, Ron
Clauss, Peter
Correa, Albert
Canfield, James Jr.
Coburn, Howard L.
Cole, Merlin
Curtis, James
Campbell, Robert T.
Conwell, Fred
Cameron, Patric
Croxen, Wayne
DeWitt, Rev. M.P.
Davis, Alan
Durant, Dick
Dyal, Dale
Duncan, R.H.
Eckhart, Charles J.
Ehrlich, Henry
Elefante, Sally
Elefanti, Marge
Eriliche, Jason
Findley, Norman
Ferguson, Clifford M.
Foley, William
Farrell, Shawn
Garland, William
Gray, Jim
Greco, Elizabeth
Gausman, Thomas
Gardner, Ken
Greenfield, Don
Gore, Darrell
Globig, Bruce
Holden, Samuel
Hatfield, Frank
Hose, Rev. John H.
Hickey, Robert
Hull, Joe C.
Hughes, Donald E.
Isakson, Vernon A.
Jordan, Steve
Johnson, J.S.
Johnston, Robert T.
Knaver, Ronald
Kluttz, Clarence
Kuhn, Clarence
Lutton, Terry
Laine, Kathryn
Lloyd, Andrew
Lasher, John
Lemson, Hans
Long, L.E.
Lebowitz, William
Martinez, Cy
McCoy, David
Mizener, David
McKey, Leonard
Mason, Charles
McCain, Kevin
Matthew of Glendale
Murphy, Larry
Moore, James
Neumeister, Carl F.
Novak, Howard
Olcott, Jack
Oswald, Blaine & Jim
Parham, Ralph E.
Palmer, James R.
Paul, Bill
Perez, Andy
Perrine, Alan
Perry, Troy D. Rev.
Peterson, Dean
Ploen, Rev. Richard
Porter, William
Purcell, Thomas
Quest, Russell
Quinn, Bob
Robermand, Ben
Rardin, Pat
Redman, Robert E.
Reis, Sam
Sommers, Grace & Orville
Sommers, Dick
Sampson, Ronald L.
Schmidt, H.E.
Spangenberg, Raymond C.
Sharpe, Peter B.
Soucey, Ronald
Schultz, Ann
Street, Ray
Smith, Jack
Thompson, Helen
Tom, William
Thorne, William
Thomas, Gerald
Vestal, Patrik
Vaughn, Connie
Van Hecke, F.L.
Van Hecke, Paul Rev.
Williams, Bill
Weber, George G.
Worthington, Fred L.
Wheeler, Norman E.
West, Gloyd
Young, H.S.
Zahn, David
Zwilling, Philip

JESUS CHRIST, SUPERSTAR

Although it is just before General Conference, the next important event for MCC Los Angeles will be our Church Birthday. During that time, we will be privileged to hear the rock opera, Jesus Christ, Superstar. It is a modern music play based upon the Crucifixion. The music is heard every day on the popular radio stations. The young identify with it. If we can't relate Jesus in this modern setting, how can we know him in our daily lives? The music is really beautiful. The lyrics are up-to-date and powerfully presented.

Mr. Lyle Page is producing this musical. We are in need of a few more singers,instrumentalists and dancers. If we had an electric guitar, a drum set, cymbals, etc. It would greatly assist the piano and organ. If there is anyone capable of transposing music and writing scores, please come forward. We'll need costumers and special lighting effects. If you have any of these talents,now is your chance. After Superstar, we will be presenting "Hello, Dolly".

This coming week, we will be practicing in the Sanctuary on Sunday at 2PM and at 7:30PM on Mondays and Tuesdays. Is your parish being represented in this dramatic production? On Wednesday nights in the Parlor and Thursday nights in the Choir Room, there will be rehearsals for the featured singers and parts such as Judas, Pilate, Caiaphas, Jesus, etc. We welcome you to join us and hope to see you there.

9:00 AM SERVICE - AUGUST 22ND

by Al Correa

There were a lot of heavy eyelids at Rev. Jon Bullock's 9 AM service today due to the many members who had also been at the Groovy Guy Contest the night before; just managed to catch the last of Rev. Bullock's service. He was assisted this morning by Rev. Ted Callaway who is an ordained Episcopal minister, and Deputy Deacon Shawn Farrell.

Thirty six were present, which really wasn't as bad as I expected considering that the earlier service would be more apt to feel the results of a major late-evening community function.

There's the oddest thing about these 9 AM services. All during this High Service the entire Sanctuary takes on another aspect, becomes another room, actually. The mood is so powerful and the colorful vestments so striking that they dominate and change the familiar sanctuary with an aura of its own. Do you get the same feeling?

The Church program handed out at 11 AM still indicates that 9 AM service is a communion service. It is not only a communion service. A Protestant High Liturgical Service complete with responsive reading, sermon and Holy Communion takes place. They even have their own Choir, so you see that this is not at all like the brief communion service formerly conducted at 9 AM.

One innovative feature is the "Kiss of Peace" administered by Deputy Shawn Farrell to every person seated on the aisle. The kiss is passed on to the person beside you. Services last exactly one hour, giving you a chance to grab a quick breakfast and return for 11 AM services. The Social Hall is also open by then in case you just want coffee and doughnuts.

Come and join us. We've found it a beautiful way to start a Sunday.

Aug. 19, 1971
Denver, Colorado

Dearest Connie & EVERYBODY:

There is a little note at the bottom of Page 8 in Rev. Grace Sommers booklet that reads: "Dim eyes cannot read fine print. Let your testimony for Christ be written in large letters that the world may see. Wm. Ward Ayer" and the kids here in Denver must have been clairvoyant while I was reading that on the airplane. When I got off the jet a large contingent from the Denver Church were waiting for me with a huge 30' long banner proclaiming: HI,LOVE! WELCOME TO QUEEN CITY! I wonder why the group of Air Force Cadets that got off the plane with me all blushed?

Denver is beautiful and the guys and gals in the Church here are all true Christians and filled with the spirit of MCC. I had wanted to come here to spread the joy of the Love that I had found in LA, but these kids have beaten me to the punch and have done nothing but show me the Love that lives here. Their hospitality and the warmth of their hearts is thouroughly contagious.

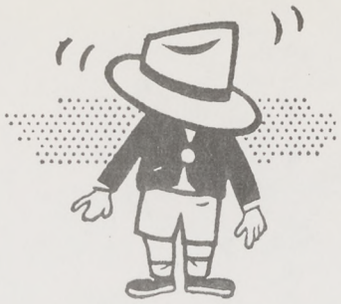
The Denver Choir has just begun and it might interest the girls at the Mother Church to know that here in Denver, the choir is evenly divided in membership between the boys and the girls. Get busy, LA!

I have been busy helping Pastor Ron Carnes with the work of the Church in every way that I can - missionary calls, correspondance, liturgical drafting, assistance during worship services, typing, and getting advertisements for the local Church publication, "The Catalyst".

Pastor Carnes has asked me to give the sermon this coming Sunday and I have finally gotten it prepared and I I'm enclosing a copy of it, too, for you.

Give all my love and best wishes to each and every member and friend at Los Angeles. God is with us all as we continue to grow.

Yours in Christ,
Bob Darst



SEZS THE MAD HATTER

Did everything theme okay last week? In this hot weather, are you all themed out? Then let's forge on to imagination. The one important ingredient that every party must have. Without it, your party will be just like everyone elses.

Now, each of you have your own personality, so this is the best place to look for imagination. Just look around until you find it...it's there, just waiting to be used.

Imagination to your party is what gas is to a car. The cars there but it won't move without gas. The same goes for your party. You may have a large crowd and the party may be in progress but it will not move without Imagination! Also, it's the cheapest expense you will have. Once you've got your theme, let the theme work with you in using your imagination.

Use it in many ways; in your placement of decorations, in the table setting, in the games you've planned, in the menu....in all these and everything else about your party, the keystone is IMAGINATION!!

If for some reason you're unsure of yourself or if you don't want to rely upon your own thoughts...shame on you....then pick up suggestions from such books as "Family Circle, California Home or Better Homes and Gardens". Just browse through and see what strikes your fancy--now,now don't let your mind roam.

Now adopt what you've found to suit your party. In time you will develop your own imagination to such a degree that you won't have to depend upon outside thought, although it's always good to keep as a backup just in case you might need it.

From imagination we're going to travel on next week to: a little

traveling music if you please.... Decorations for your party. You might think that I'm back tracking to party theme time, but just hold on to your hats...the old mad hatter ain't lost his.

Imagine that!
Dick Durant
The Mad Hatter

THE SOUNDS OF MUSIC

Full steam ahead seems to be the motto for choir rehearsal now. We are preparing many songs that will be heard in the near future. Some we have done before and many are new to our repertoire.

We are very thankful for the return of our older members and especially for our new members that have recently joined our group. We are still looking for more members who might like to join both our Liturgical or Chancel Choirs. Girls!! Let's get involved. We need sopranos and altos. The men sound fine as you can hear, but we still need women. We love you sisters.

Anyone interested, just check with Craig or Edgar Carswell for tryouts.

Stay with the Lord and stay in tune.

Loren Henderson

Write it over all your difficulties, pen it across all your disappointments, inscribe it on all your fears, post it over all your troubles -- God is able.

A TESTIMONIAL

The very first time that Char and I attended MCC, we were both overwhelmed at the wonderful feeling of friendship and love all around us. I know we will never forget that wonderful feeling we both felt as we left the Church after services that June afternoon. Somehow, without either one of us saying it aloud, we both knew that MCC was to become a very big part of our lives.

Char and I have been together 11 years this last May, and nothing that has happened in those years, could equal that first Sunday at MCC. After all the years together, our relationship had gotten to the point of stagnation and complacency.

By coming back to Christ, somehow we started looking at each other much differently, all that Sunday afternoon I kept saying how wonderful I felt, and we both felt a re-newal of our love for each other, through our love of God.

On August 1st, Char and I were baptised by Rev. Perry, and it was a very big step in our lives. I had been raised in the Church from a very young child, but turned away from God as my homosexuality became what I thought (and was made to believe) was in conflict with my past beliefs. Char had very little religious background, so for her it was a complete change in her life.

About 3 weeks ago, Rev. Perry delivered the finest sermon we have ever heard. For the first time in our lives, someone was telling us not to change, not to conform to the straight world, but to be ourselves. We have changed, but in our hearts, and we believe that God does love us and He has blessed us with His love, and our lives are enriched by that love. MCC is the greatest thing that ever happened to us.

FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

by Kevin McCain

Next weekend is our 2nd Annual General Conference and in preparation for that time, Rev. Perry will be taking no more appointments this week. We had word from Rev. Jim Sandmire of our East Bay MCC in Oakland that there will be 16 members and delgates here for the Conference. Rev. Howard Wells will be here with the San Francisco Choir. (I understand that our choirs in LA will really have some strong competition.)

Deacon Joseph Gilbert, former "In Unity" Editor, will be down from Sacramento along with a contingent from our Harmony Mission and Rev. Rodger Harrison will be here from Costa Mesa with his Orange County delegates and members.

Of course, San Diego will be represented by Papa John, Deacon Howard Williams, and a large group from our city in the south. They will have their regular Sunday worship service at 10:30 AM instead of 7:30 PM. I understand it will be a combined service with Chollas View Methodist Church and Rev.Hose will be speaking After their service, many of our San Diego members will be coming up to L by bus for the final service of the Conference, when Dr. Evelyn Hooker will be speaking.

Our Fresno Mission will be well represented as well as our Denver Mission. Rev. Carnes and Tod will be in from Denver along with 3 members. Rev. Arthur Green will be here from Chicago; many of you may remember the fine message he delivered at our Sunday service last year. He will be accompanied by Rev. Paul Sydman from our Milwaukee Mission.

Rev. Paul Breton from MCC Washington, DC will be here representing our national capitol and Florida will be well represented by Rev. Brad Wilson from Miami, Rev. Lee Carlton from Tampa, their delegates, members and many of their friends. Some of them are even driving all the way from Miami.

Rev. Richard Vincent will be in town from our Dallas Church along with Rev. Rob Shivers and several Dallas members. Phoenix will be represented by Rev. Robert Cunningham and Allen Mros will be here from Tucson along with many of our Arizona friends.

Hawaii will be represented by Rev. Ron Hanson. He'll be accompanied by several Hawaiian members.

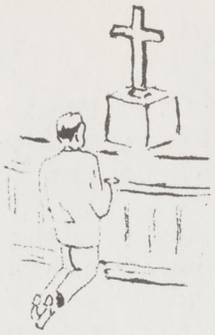
So...it really looks like we are going to have a busy and fun-filled weekend. For those of you who have offered housing for the Conference, I will be contacting you early this week. Some of our guests will be arriving on Thursday, others on Friday. Many of them will not be staying over on Sunday night. Also, meals will be provided at the Church for the weekend. So, it is not necessa to stock your pantry and refrigerator in advance.

NEED A JOB? CALL US NOW.

The job market is getting better every day. Are you interested in a better job? If you are interested in a management trainee position or if you are considering a career in the insurance industry, contact us now. We have many employment opportunities open in all classifications. If you know any women who have good office skills please have them see us, w have immediate openings for them.

The Job Counselling Office is open everyday from 9:30 to 11:30 AM. Let us help you to a better future.

Bill Thorne



IN SUPPORT OF PASTOR GILBERT

I have always been gladdened by the fact that each congregation within the fellowship that I have been priveleged to work with is able to express its own personality in a unique way.

Regarding Pastor Gilbert's comments that there maybe efforts at General Conference to legislate in areas of liturgy, clerical dress, etc. which was printed in the recent edition of Harmony Digest, I join him in the expressed hope that these matters may as much as possible be left to the individual congreations.

In the areas of liturgical procedure and clerical dress, I doubt that any two members of the deaconate differ in the need for personal expression as completely as Joe Gilbert and myself. Therefore, you are likely to find more responsive reading in Sacramento and more personal testimony at the Fresno worship services while both congregations follow the same general order of services.

May the Spirit of Unity and Mutual Respect and Deep Concern for individual needs of our respective congregations that Joe and I share influence the decisions made at General Conference this year. Right on Pastor Gilbert!

Deacon Ray Cook
Iterim Pastor
Fresno Mission

THE VALLEY VIEW

"For brethern, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another."

This was the message brought to the Valley Parish meeting Tuesday, August 24th, by the Rev. Evelyn Kinser. She pointed out that freedom came with obligation, with responsibility. Christ bought our spiritual freedom with His sacrifice upon the cross.Being free in the spirit frees us forever from the bonds of sin and guilt.

Rev. Kinser expanded the ideals of freedom to encompass our everyday lives and associations. She pointed out that our individual freedom ends where our neighbor's freedom begins. That is to say, no man has true freedom when he purchases it at the price of another's rights. We only have the right to freedom when we give that same right to all mankind.

Following Rev. Kinser's talk there was a lively discussion about all kinds of freedom. Some of us, perhaps, missed the true message given us by the Scripture text.Freedom is one to one movement, spiritual giving on an individual basis. An idea that must first take root in the soul of man,one man, and extended to each human being on a person to person basis. No large group of people can be truly free unless each member within the group is free, and is willing to extend to all men his own freedom.

We spent two hours in fellowship and the exchange of attitudes and ideas. We got to know each other a little better.

Our next meeting will be held Sept. 14th, Tuesday, at the home of Rev. Jon Bullock and Wayne Croxen:

Markwell Plaza
11839 Magnolia Blvd.
Apt. #14
North Hollywood
Phone- 763-9305

Our subject for the evening will be "The Hungry 'I' ". Join us in fellowship and bring a friend.

SOUTH CENTRAL NEWS

The South Central Parish met this past Tuesday nite at the home of Ron Avaino in Lynwood. Since our speaker was not able to be with us, we talked in length on fund raising projects and socials. South Central will be hosting a Pot-Luck Dinner with entertainment, (can't tell you now, but I'm sure you'll be surprised...well, at least a little shocked). Discussion also centered on a party aimed sometime close to Christmas.

Our next meeting will be held on Sept. 9th at Rusty's. You won't want to miss this one since we have arranged to have David Miles leading our discussion on Crisis Intervention. If possible we hope to have another person from Crisis with us also.

I'm really thankful for the wonderful people down in South Central and for the opportunity I have to work with them. I might add just this. The other parishes had better watch close! 'Cause we have some very powerful things up our sleeves!

Love & Peace
Jim Mason

MCC - COSTA MESA

Last Sunday night 67 people left Christ Chapel with a feeling of having been lifted high in the Spirit of the Lord. Rev. Marty McCabe's Christ the Conqueror sermon was well received.

Mrs. Dorthey Perlman's piano rendition of "Put Your Hand in the Hand of the Man From Galilee" was well presented.

The highlight of the evening was the tender Communion Service where each person attending Communion was reminded by Rev. McCabe that This is the body and the blood of Jesus and like the rose of sharon, Jesus lived and died and lives again. Each person received a red rose during the communion service.

This Sunday night the Rev. Clonnie Lambert will be guest speaker. Pastor Harrison will return from vacation on Tuesday, August 31st.

Rev. McCabe wants to thank all of those who were in attendance from MCC LA.

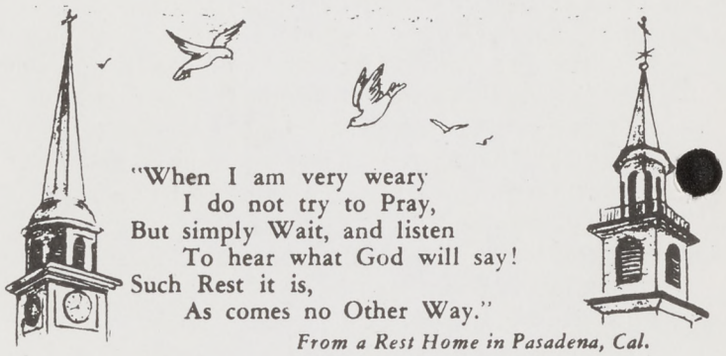
Andy Hallum
Treasurer

BEACH PARISH

This prayer has been very helpf[illegible] to me in difficult times. I hope it will be helpful to you as well....

I know not by what methods rare,
But this I know--God answers prayer,
I know not when He sends the word
That tells us fervent prayer is heard.
I know it cometh--soon or late;
Therefore we need to pray and wait.
I know not if the blessing sought
Will come in just the way I thought.
I leave my prayers with Him alone,
Whose will is wiser than my own.

Fred,
Deputy Deacon



CENTRAL PARISH NEWS

A meeting of the Central Parish was held on Tuesday at the home of Jerry Grosenheider and Fernando Benavidez. A very lively discussion was held on MCC functions and the up and coming General Conference. A pot-luck supper will be held on Tuesday, September 7. The place to be announced later. Watch for it in the MCC News.

Deacon John Logan has appointed Mary Williams as his co-ordinator temporarily. A permanent co-ordinator will be elected after local elections have been completed.

Acting Secretary
Rochelle McCullough

MCC TREASURER'S WEEKLY REPORT

This week seems to follow the same pattern lately. By the looks of our tithes, we still must have a lot of people out of work. Our envelopes this week were 38% of our pledges or $383.03. The loose offering was $439.67, and miscellaneous receipts through the week (mail, etc.) were $488.83 for a total of $1311.53.

Of the $740.00 pledged for the air conditioning on August 15th to be paid by August 22nd, only $375.00 has been received. Sorry that some of you couldn't make it. I know you must have had a good reason.

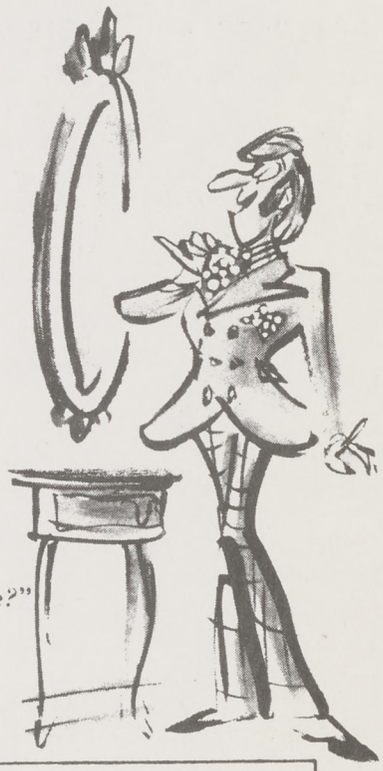
God be with you all.

Pat Vestal
Church Treasurer

Personal Services and the C.I.C. group have expanded their activities to formulate a new rescue facility. The nature of the new group is to aid people with self destructive tendencies.

This group meets on Monday evenings at 8 PM here in the Church. Coordination is by Fred Cutter, Sue Howe, and Charles Lucas.

Essentially the group will call itself Survivors Anonymous. The only ticket to membership is having had the feeling, at one time or another that you may feel an urge to self destruct, or your pattern of behavior may be such that you fell you're running out of gas. If so, feel free to come to these rap sessions. The life you save may be your own.



"With trousers flared
And waist suppressed,
Deep center vent
And all the rest,
With cloth that's rare
And cut divine,
Won't you be my valentine?"

IN UNITY 2201 S. UNION AVE LOS ANGELES CALIF 90007

PLEASE SEND ME TWELVE MONTLY ISSUES OF **IN UNITY MAGAZINE**.

ENCLOSED PLEASE FIND MY CHECK (Money Order) IN THE AMOUNT OF **$6.50**.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP CODE** _____

THE METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES

HOSTS

THE 2ND ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE

UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP OF METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCHES

2201 South Union Avenue
Los Angeles, California

SEPTEMBER 3	FRIDAY	8:00 PM	INSPIRATIONAL CONVOCATION Publication Awards & Seminary Skit Keynote Address: Rev. Troy Perry
SEPTEMBER 4	SATURDAY	8:00 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE
		9 - 10	CONFERENCE BREAKFAST
		10:00 AM	DEVOTIONAL SERVICE Sermon: Rev. Ron Hanson, MCC, Honolulu, Hawaii
			Immediately following
			START OF BUSINESS MEETING
		12 - 1:30 PM	CONFERENCE LUNCH
		1:30 - 5:30 PM	BUSINESS MEETING
		7:00 PM	EVENING SERVICE All MCC Choral Contest Sermon: Rev. Alice Naumoff Asst. Pastor MCC San Francisco
SEPTEMBER 5	SUNDAY	8 - 9 AM	COFFEE HOUR & CONTINENTAL BRUNCH
		9:00 AM	COMMUNION SERVICE Rev. Green, Good Shepherd Parish, Chicago Pastor Paul Sydman, Prince of Peach Parish, Milwaukee
		11:00 AM	MASSIVE WORSHIP SERVICE Rev. Rodger Harrison, Christ Chapel, MCC, Costa Mesa
		1:00 PM	CONFERENCE LUNCH
		7:30 PM	EVENING CONFERENCE SERVICE "Wings Over Jordan" Choir Speaker: Dr. Evelyn Hooker Institute of Mental Health